

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 056184

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ORIGIN NEA-02

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FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON

FOL REPEAT NEW DELHI 3400 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO IS-  
LAMABAD TEHRAN CINCPAC BOMBAY CALCUTTA MADRAS  
MAR 11

QTE

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 3400

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, PK, US

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER SAYS PAKISTAN'S ATTITUDE TO  
INDIA BELLICOSE

1. PRESS REPORTS INDICATE PRIME MINISTER GANDHI WHO SPENT  
SOME TIME ON MARCH 10 WITH THE INDIAN NAVY AT SEA TOLD  
REPORTERS AT THAT TIME THAT WITH THE ASSURANCE OF ARMS  
SUPPLY, PAKISTAN'S ATTITUDE TOWARD INDIA HAD BECOME BELLICOSE.  
REPLYING TO QUESTIONS SHE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE QUANTITY OF  
ARMS WAS NOT AS IMPORTANT AS PAKISTAN'S HAVING AGGRESSIVE  
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PAGE 02 STATE 056184

DESIGNS AGAINST INDIA. THE NEW DELHI EDITION OF THE STATESMAN

QUOTES HER AS SAYING THAT IT WAS NOT THE TYPE OF ARMS THAT PAKISTAN ACQUIRED THAT MATTERED, "BUT EVERY TIME THEY BEGIN TO RECEIVE ARMS THEIR BELLICOSITY AND AGGRESSIVENESS INCREASES."

2. ASKED BY NEWSMEN ABOUT THE SUPPLY OF FIGHTER PLANES TO PAKISTAN BY IRAN THE PRIME MINISTER APPARENTLY REFUSED AT FIRST TO ANSWER DIRECTLY, BUT COMMENTED THAT IRAN HAD ASSURED INDIA THAT IRAN STOOD FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE SUB-CONTINENT. THE HINDUSTAN TIMES REPORTS SHE ADDED, "AFTER ALL IRAN IS A FRIEND OF PAKISTAN AND THIS ARMS SUPPLY BY IRAN COULD BE A PART OF THEIR OVERALL GLOBAL STRATEGY."

3. IN OTHER REMARKS ON THE SAME OCCASION THE PRIME MINISTER REPORTEDLY TOLD SAILORS THAT SHE HAD FULL CONFIDENCE IN THE ABILITY OF THE INDIAN NAVY IN KEEPING INDIA'S SHORES FREE OF AGGRESSION. SHE SAID IT WAS INDIA'S DECLARED POLICY THAT THE INDIAN OCEAN SHOULD BE A ZONE OF PEACE, AND THAT THE COUNTRY WAS PREPARED TO RESIST ALL PRESSURES AGAINST THAT

POLICY.SAXBE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, IN, PK, US, (GANDHI, INDIRA)  
**To:** ASWAN  
**Type:** TE  
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